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Attorney's Docket No. JJ-124B-R&D

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Dube et al. Confirmation No.:
Appl. No.: 09/624,820 Group Art Unit: 1731
Filed: July 25, 2000 Examiner: Walls, D.
For: METHOD OF IMPROVING FLAVOR IN SMOKING ARTICLE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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Transmitted herewith is an AMENDMENT in the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.
☐ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(COL. 1)		(COL. 2)	(COL. 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDIT. FEE	OR RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	* 26	** 20	= 6	X9=	\$	X18=	\$ 108.00
INDEP	* 3	*** 3	= 0	X42=	\$	X84=	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM				+140=	\$	+280=	\$
				TOTAL ADD FEE \$		OR TOTAL	\$ 108.00

* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space. The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

In re: Dube et al.
Appl. No.: 09/634,820
Filed: July 25, 2002
Atty. Dock. No. JJ-1245-R&D
Page 2



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- ☒ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 16-0605 in the amount of \$108.00 .
- ☐ A check in the amount \$ to cover the additional fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.
- ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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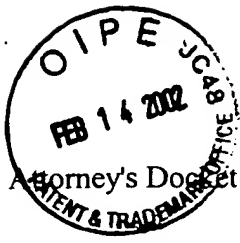
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on January 24, 2002.

Tracey S. Wright

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Attorney's Docket No. JJ-124B-R&D

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

#5A/BM
3-4-02

In re: Dube et al.
Appl. No.: 09/624,820
Filed: July 25, 2000
For: METHOD OF IMPROVING FLAVOR IN SMOKING ARTICLE

Confirmation No.:
Group Art Unit: 1731
Examiner: Walls, D.

January 24, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

The following is offered as a full and complete response to the Official Action mailed October 24, 2001. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

sbB1
1. (Amended) A method for improving the flavor and aroma characters of a smoking article, comprising:
providing an aqueous mixture consisting essentially of a reducing sugar and optionally a hydroxide of an alkali metal;
subjecting said mixture to heat treatment for a time and under conditions sufficient to produce a flavorful caramel composition;
applying said flavorful composition to a tobacco leaf or cut filler made thereof; and
preparing a smoking article comprising said tobacco leaf or cut filler.

Please add new Claims 15-26 as follows:

A2 sbB3
15. (New) A method for improving the flavor and aroma characters of a smoking article,

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